

To Foreign Collectors. We send a large number of copies to foreign countries each month for the purpose of securing your subscription.

If this paragraph is marked, it is to be considered an invitation to subscribe. Our subscription rates to any country in the world outside of Canada and the United States are 50 cents, 2 sh., 2 fr., 2 mks., or equivalents. Remittances may be made by P. O. Order, or unused stamps of the lowest denomination.

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Our Subscription List. Our subscription list is not nearly so large as it should be. We are well aware that many of our patrons are

interested in the success of THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST, to such an extent that they would not object to assist us in the matter of securing subscriptions. We have therefore decided to offer any person who will secure us the subscriptions of four of their friends, and forward same, together with \$1, we will send the paper one year to each of the names sent, and also send you the paper one year for your trouble. If you are already a subscriber, you may have your subscription extended a year, or have the paper sent to some friend. Take advantage of this offer.

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Timely Topics. Proprietary medicines in England bear an *ad-valorem* stamp for revenue purposes. The amounts received by

the government from this source during 1892 have just been published. On an article sold for one shilling (or 25 cents) the duty is 3 cents. On two shillings and six-pence (60 cents) it is six cents. The revenue from this source in 1892 exceeded that of 1891 by about \$72,300. The total was well over \$1,200,000 (one million two hundred thousand dollars). The quantity of merchandise covered by this duty must have been stupendous. I may add that the duty is added to the retail price. Thus a shilling article stamped is sold to the public, when not cut, at one shilling, one penny and a half-penny.

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Rogers' Blue-Book. One of the most important philatelic works of the year is *Rogers' Philatelic Blue-Book*. It comprises a large quantity of information, valuable to philatelists, but more especially so to the dealer and publisher. It gives the names, addresses, occupations, age, references, societies of which they are members, size of collection, speciality, etc., etc., of almost 2,000 collectors. All American Societies are fully dealt with. The American dealers are also fully brought to light, capital, age, speciality and kindred information being given. Mr. Rogers is to be congratulated on the successful completion of a philatelic work of such importance. It is handsomely bound in blue cloth with gilt lettering. It can be obtained from us at the publisher's price, \$1.00 post-paid.

A New Standard Catalogue.

We are now promised a new standard catalogue. What success it will have is more than we feel inclined to say.

American collectors are at present dependent on Scott's Catalogue, which has been and is the standard American catalogue. Other catalogues are published, but are not as generally used as those of the Scott Stamp & Coin Co. Now a syndicate of dealers whose object seems to be more one of rivalry than anything else (it cannot be from the profit of the publication they undertake it) are going to issue a new standard catalogue. Now we are well aware that Scott's catalogue prices are far from correct, that many are too high, many too low, yet when one carefully considers the matter, cannot it be easily seen that in a work which necessitates such an immense labor, a certain amount of error is excusable. Notwithstanding this, we are, however, not by any means inclined to favor one firm with the monopoly. The new catalogue we feel sure will receive fair and unprejudiced criticism from all. It promises that the prices will be correct to a great measure, that it will be a catalogue of the grade of Morris', Serrf's, and Stanley Gibbons', which are the acknowledged leading catalogues. There is one thing however which is apt to deteriorate the value of the catalogue: After the compilers have finished their work a committee of prominent and experienced dealers will meet in New York and carefully revise the list of prices before it is printed. This committee is composed of stockholders of the Company, and any dealer who purchases 1,000 catalogues may sit on the committee, and we presume that the meaning of this is that any dealer who thus obtains representation on this board of revision will wield a considerable influence toward the placing of the price of a stamp of which he holds a large stock. However, the promoters of the catalogue may deny this, they will find that this will be partially true. It is next to impossible that a catalogue compiled under the supervision of a ring of dealers can be free from this detestable evil. Few American catalogues are, now, in my opinion, and we do not believe we are alone, this is the only objection of any importance that can be made against the new catalogue, yet we may be wrong in our prediction. We on the whole are inclined to favor the new catalogue. It may serve to encourage among cataloguers a greater uniformity in price, for any general and great difference in price would cause unfavorable comment. This will probably lead both cataloguers to use a more careful judgment in placing the correct prices, yet we could not refrain from objecting as we did to the mode of revision. Collectors should have representation. "Every stamp will be priced. Many stamps are now priced at a few cents that can hardly ever be found in a dealer's stock; the prices should be raised. Many others less scarce are priced far too high, and these